



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

in re Patent Application of:

Greg Nordgren
Serial No.: 10/647039
Filed: 21 August 2003
For: SLIT VALVES FOR CATHETER
TIPS AND METHODS

Docket: 8607
Art Unit:
Examiner:

RELATED ART/INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Applicant does not believe that the related art set forth on the accompanying PTO-1449 form is particularly germane and certainly such does not anticipate or make obvious the invention of the above-identified application.

To the best of the recollection of the Applicant and the undersigned, neither is aware of any further patent or publication which might be deemed relevant to the claimed subject matter.

Furthermore, it should also be made of record that no exhaustive effort has been undertaken to locate, either on the part of the Applicant or the undersigned, any patent or publication which might in the past have been familiar to the Applicant or the undersigned and which may be con-

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Honorable Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 3, 2003.

Lynn G. Foster

tained in the files and/or among records concerning which neither the Applicant nor the undersigned has present recollection.

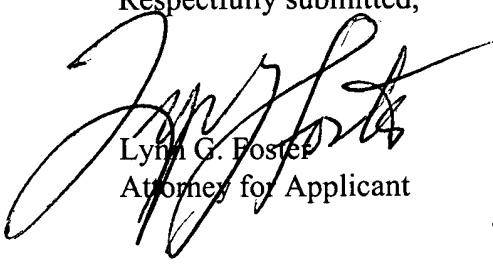
Restated, so far as the undersigned and the Applicant is able to presently recall, neither is aware of any related art patents or publications believed to be germane in any way to the above-identified application other than the patents mentioned below and said patents are believed to be only of general interest.

In the past, slit valves have traditionally been used in the side walls of otherwise closed catheter tubes to infuse or aspirate fluid. Use of such side wall slit valves has been direct to infusion and aspiration of liquids in the cardiovascular systems of medical patients, infusion and aspiration of fluids in the respiratory systems of medical patients, and infusion and aspiration in other body cavities.

Disadvantageously, catheter tube side wall slit valves, when a slit of a given slit valve is open, sometimes the central passageway within the catheter tube is partially or totally occluded. Also interference can occur between the lips (adjacent to a slit) as they are flexed outwardly and the wall of the body cavity in which the catheter tube and slit valve are disposed, which either prevents the slit valve from opening or undesirably limits the extent to which it is permitted to open.

While the Applicant and the undersigned attorney believe PTO-1449 patents and publications are of general interest only, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner make his or her own independent search and review of the PTO 1449 art to determine for himself or herself the extent to which the cited publications and patents and any others located in the search by the Examiner are deemed to be relevant, if at all, to the presently claimed invention of the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,



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Form PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE			ATTY. DOCKET NO. 8607	SERIAL NO. 10/647039	
LIST OF ARTS CITED BY APPLICANT <small>(Continued on back sheet if necessary)</small>				APPLICANT: GREG NORDGREN		
				FILING DATE: 21 AUG 2003	GROUP	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA	3,525,357	08/25/70	Koreski	137	516.11	11/18/68
	AB	4,549,879	10/29/85	Groshong, et al.	604	247	05/03/83
	AC	4,685,905	08/11/87	Jeanneret nee Aab	604	247	05/19/86
	AD	4,753,640	06/28/88	Nichols, et al.	604	247	10/06/86
	AE	4,995,863	02/26/91	Nichols, et al.	604	247	02/25/88
	AF	5,030,210	07/09/91	Alchas	604	247	02/08/88
	AG	5,112,301	05/12/92	Fenton, Jr. et al.	604	30	06/19/91
	AH	5,147,332	09/15/92	Moorehead	604	247	05/17/91
	AI	5,261,885	11/16/93	Lui	604	247	07/14/92
	AJ	5,707,357	01/13/98	Mikhail, et al.	604	96	02/22/96
	AK						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	AL							
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							

OTHER RELATED ART (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Literature	1	
Literature	2	
Literature	3	
Literature	4	
Literature	5	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.